

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for the detection and communication of a missing LAN or WAN compliant device to a host device is disclosed. The present invention includes a front card configured to accept a Fast Ethernet device on a PCI-compliant bus, and the front card includes a switch which is serially disposed on a PCI_Isel line corresponding to a particular channel on said front card. The switch is further configured to receive a sensing signal corresponding to said channel from said device. The apparatus is configured to provide the PCI_Isel line to the front card if the sensing signal is in a first state, and provide a low potential to the front card if said sensing signal is in a second state.